



# ***INSIGHTS***

107<sup>th</sup> Congress

August 5, 2002

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<http://www.eren.doe.gov/femp/resources/insights.html>.*

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**INSIGHTS** is prepared expressly for the Department of Energy's Office of Federal Energy Management Programs (FEMP). The purpose of **INSIGHTS** is to provide FEMP management staff with timely information on legislative activities relevant to the program. **INSIGHTS** is prepared for FEMP by Energetics, Incorporated, (202) 479-2748.

# I. WEEKLY SUMMARY

## CONGRESSIONAL SCHEDULE

*Congress is in recess for the month of August and will return after Labor Day.*

## CONFERENCE COMMITTEES/VOTES

*No new information of interest to report.*

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# II. COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

## HOUSE

*The House was in recess last week; no new information to report.*

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## SENATE

***FY 2003 Appropriations*** The Senate approved the unnumbered bill for FY 2003 Defense Appropriations on August 1. While the \$355.4 billion bill (*S. Rpt. 107-213*) does not include any specific language regarding construction it does reduce the House request for utility privatization by \$9 million.

***Comprehensive Energy Legislation*** While House and Senate conference committee staffers continue to negotiate details of comprehensive energy legislation, House and Senate negotiators are being lobbied to both support and reject the Senate provision dealing with a renewable portfolio standard (RPS).

Forty-nine Senators (43 Democrats, five Republicans, and one Independent) sent a letter to Senators Jeff Bingaman (D/NM) and Frank Murkowski (R/AK) Chairman and Ranking Member respectively of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resource recommending that the Senate language remain in the negotiated energy bill. The letter states:

An energy bill that does not include the RPS or contains a watered-down version will fail to achieve what American people are expecting of us – an energy strategy that enhances both energy security and the environment.

Conference Committee Chair, Representative Billy Tauzin (R/LA), received a letter from industry groups including the Edison Electric Institute, the National Association of Manufacturers, 20 utilities, some consumer groups, among others recommending that conferees reject the RPS. In their letter, they suggest that implementation of the standard will result in passing additional costs on to consumers. Secretary Abraham, in a letter to Chairman Tauzin has said that the Administration believes this issue should be decided by the individual states and recommended a three-year extension to an existing tax credit for renewable energy. The standard, if implemented according to Senate language, would require utilities to acquire 10 percent of their power by 2020 from renewable resources such as solar and wind energy.

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# III. FY 2003 APPROPRIATIONS CHART

(In Billions)

**HOUSE**

**SENATE**

<i>Jurisdiction/ FY 2003 Budget Request</i>	<i>302(b) Allocations / Approved Funding Level</i>	<i>Bill No.</i>	<i>Full Cmte.</i>	<i>Floor</i>	<i>Conf.</i>	<i>302(b) Allocations / Approved Funding Level</i>	<i>Bill No.</i>	<i>Full Cmte.</i>	<i>Floor</i>	<i>Conf.</i>
<b>Agriculture</b> <b>\$17.051</b>	<b>\$ 17.601</b>	<b>HR</b> <b>5263</b>	7/11	7/26		<b>\$ 17.980</b>	<b>S</b> <b>2801</b>	7/25		
<b>Commerce</b> <b>\$ 40.333</b>	<b>\$ 40.726</b>	-	7/18			<b>\$ 43.475</b>	<b>S</b> <b>2778</b>	7/18		
<b>Defense</b> <b>\$356.598</b>	<b>\$354.7</b>	<b>HR</b> <b>5010</b>	6/24	6/27		<b>\$ 355.1</b>	-	7/18	8/1.	
<b>Energy and Water Development</b> <b>\$251.149</b>	<b>\$ 26.027</b>	-				<b>\$ 26.300</b>	<b>S</b> <b>2784</b>	7/24		
<b>Interior</b> <b>\$18.953</b>	<b>\$ 19.8</b>	<b>HR</b> <b>5093</b>	7/9	7/17		<b>\$ 19.35</b>	<b>S.</b> <b>2708</b>	6/27		
<b>Labor / HHS</b> <b>\$129.902</b>	<b>\$129.902</b>	-				<b>\$133.988</b>	<b>S</b> <b>2766</b>	7/18		
<b>Military Construction</b> <b>\$ 9.541</b>	<b>\$ 10.083</b>	<b>HR</b> <b>5011</b>	6/24	6/27		<b>\$ 10.622</b>	<b>S</b> <b>2709</b>	6/27	7/18	
<b>Transportation</b> <b>\$ 19.851</b>	<b>\$ 19.411</b>	-				<b>\$ 21.1</b>	<b>S</b> <b>2808</b>	7/25		
<b>Treasury</b> <b>\$ 17.960</b>	<b>\$ 18.501</b>	<b>HR</b> <b>5120</b>	7/9	7/24		<b>\$ 18.501</b>	<b>S</b> <b>2740</b>	7/16		
<b>VA/HUD</b> <b>\$ 92.518</b>	<b>\$ 91.841</b>	-				<b>\$ 91.434</b>	<b>S</b> <b>2797</b>	7/25		
<b>Total 302(b) Allocations/ FY 2003 Budget Request</b> <b>\$748.141</b>										

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## IV. NEW LEGISLATION

*(Note: Once a new bill is introduced, the Government Printing Office generally requires from several days to one week to make the bill available in print)*

### HOUSE

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
H. R. 5223	<b>Government Shutdown Prevention Act</b>	July 25	George Gekas (R/PA)	Referred to the Committee on Appropriations
	Authorizes continuing appropriations as necessary to continue any project or activity for which funds were provided in the preceding fiscal year. <i>Act</i> shall apply with respect to fiscal years beginning with fiscal year 2003.			
	The amendments made by this <i>Act</i> shall sunset and have no force or effect three years after the date of enactment of this <i>Act</i> .			

### SENATE

*No new legislation of interest to report.*

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## V. ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVES

***FY 2002 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations*** The President signed *H.R. 4775* on August 2 (a public law number is pending). The bill increases homeland security including security for Federal facilities (e.g., enhanced physical structures) and redevelopment of the New York City terrorist site.

***President's Weekly Radio Address*** In his weekly Saturday radio address, the President's remarks covered a range of topics summing up his Administration's proposals and Congressional action. In his address, **President Bush talked about pending comprehensive energy legislation:**

And they [Congress] must agree on a comprehensive energy bill that will increase production and promote conservation and reduce our dependence on foreign energy sources.

In summing up his assessment of Congressional action on pending issues ranging from welfare reform to homeland security to energy legislation, the President said:

I know in the fall of an election year the tendency is to focus more on scoring political points than on making progress. I hope the Congress will reject this approach. In the last month we've proven how much we can get done when everyone in Washington works together on behalf of the American people. Come September, I look forward to working with the Republicans and Democrats to build on that progress.

***Federal Standby Power Initiative*** On August 1, Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham highlighted the one-year anniversary of the President's executive order (*E.O. 13221 – Energy Efficient Standby Power Devices*) directing Federal agencies to acquire electronic devices that consume a minimal amount of standby power. In his remarks, Secretary Spencer said

The effort is a prime example of how President Bush has directed the federal government to lead by example when it comes to saving energy. Public-private partnerships like this one can bring about real change that benefits all consumers and our nation. These types of innovations save energy without sacrificing the effectiveness of our products.

The Department of Energy calculates that an estimated savings of \$25 million in energy costs can be achieved over the next six years as a result of this initiative. The President signed the order on July 31, 2001. To view the order along with the features and status of the Federal standby power program coordinated by the Department's Office of Federal Energy Management Programs (FEMP), visit the FEMP web site at [www.eren.doe.gov/femp/resources/standby\\_power.html](http://www.eren.doe.gov/femp/resources/standby_power.html).

***FY 2003 Call for Projects*** FEMP has issued its FY 2003 "Call for Projects" in which the program provides Federal agencies with technical assistance to support screening for project opportunities, feasibility studies, procurement specifications, design review, and sustainable facility workshops. This year's program provides up to \$500,000 for selected projects. For more information, visit the FEMP web site for an application:

<http://femp.nrel.gov/tacalls/logon.ta>

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## **VI. HEARINGS SCHEDULE**

### ***HOUSE – COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS***

*There are no hearings of interest to report.*

### ***HOUSE – AUTHORIZATIONS/OVERSIGHT***

*There are no hearings of interest to report.*

### ***SENATE – COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS***

*There are no hearings of interest to report.*

## SENATE – AUTHORIZATIONS/OVERSIGHT

Date/Committee	Chair	Hearing Title/Issues	Witnesses	Time/Location
<i>August 8</i> - Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  <i>(NEW)</i>	Jeff Bingaman (D/NM)	<i>Field Hearing</i> – Developments in advanced fuel cell technology for transportation, lighting, and other applications	David Garman, DOE Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy  Representatives from Sandia National Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory, and the lighting technology industry	9:00 a.m. City Council Chambers City of Albuquerque, NM

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## CONFERENCE COMMITTEE NEGOTIATIONS/FLOOR VOTES

*There is no activity of interest to report.*

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